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(54) ALERT DELIVERY AND DELIVERY
PERFORMANCE IN A MONITORING
SYSTEM

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(57) ABSTRACT

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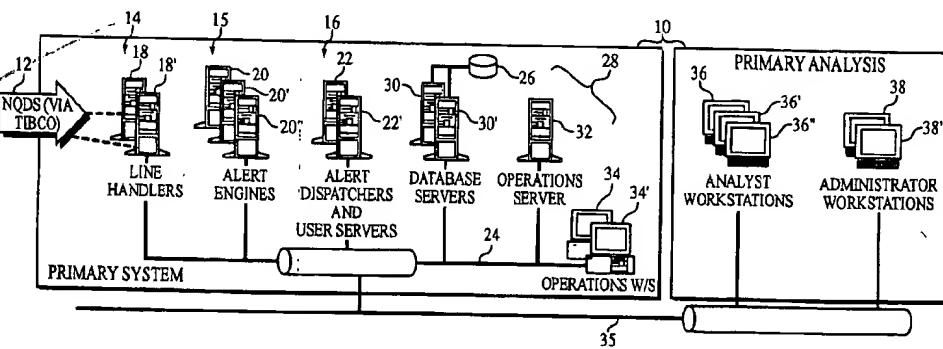
An alert dispatcher for a market monitoring system includes a computer having a processor and a memory device. The memory device encodes an executable program of instructions for dispatching alerts. The instructions receive alerts from a plurality of alert engines, store a portion of the received messages in a queue, and publish the stored messages for analyst computers. A system for monitoring a trading market includes a local area network, an alert engine coupled to the network, and an alert dispatcher. The alert engine produces an alert on the network in response to receiving a market event message corresponding an alert condition. The alert dispatcher is connected to receive alerts from the network and to publish a portion of the alerts for analysts, and to generate data on alert delivery times.

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[0177] Referring again to FIG. 11, the L/C alert and coordinator components 187, 199 may impose threshold requirements on detecting and publishing, respectively, L/C market conditions for the analyst workstations 36, 36', 36". A threshold may require that a locked market condition persist for several seconds before an alert is published. This removes some L/C conditions caused by brief lack of inattention on the part of a market participant. The administrator workstation 38, 38' can change the thresholds associated with detecting and publishing L/C market alerts by writing new threshold values to the algorithm parameters object 206 of FIG. 14.

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705/36

[0221] Referring to FIG. 36, a process 640 by which the component manager 186 and UMA alert component 190 detect UMA alert conditions is shown. The component manager 186 receives 642 a new **market event** message containing data of a type capable of triggering an UMA alert. The component manager 186 requests 644 historical data from the data cache 202. The requested type of historical data **correlates** to the data types of the new **market event** message. After receiving the historical data, the component manager 186 forwards 646 the new **market event** message and historical data to the UMA alert component 190. The UMA alert component 190 compares 648 the new data from the **market event** message to **predicted** values of the new data derived from the historical data. If the new data and the **predicted** new data differ by above threshold amounts, the UMA alert component 190 signals 650 an UMA alert condition to the component manager 186.